

THE FORUM

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R. L. Rogers, Editor and Manager.
J. B. Osby, Associate Editor.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 1910.

EDITORIAL

The Tree is Known By Its Fruit.

The present county officials who were elected last fall, and who, each of them, received a large negro vote, seems to rest contented without giving the negro anything like a fair deal. Now, the tree is known by the fruit it bears. We would be greatly consoled were the successful Republican candidates to explain to us why they do as they are doing. Are they ungrateful, ignorant, or are they mean? The colored people are trying to do the right in politics. They rallied to the Sheriff, the County Treasurer, and all. They supported our men for the Legislature. What is the reward? Nothing. Can these men hope for help again and get it? No. Can the friends of these men who are candidates for Commissioner hope to and get the colored vote now? No. The representative colored people have received for bread a stone. What reconciliation will there be? None. What excuse have they for their sins of omission? No plausible one. We have no apologies to make for our stand taken. We always cry out for peace! peace! but when war is inevitable, we cry, "forward march; on to war!"

We first aim to be right and justified in our contentions—then we never retreat until the wrong has been righted. Any man or set of men who does or do not reciprocate and keep his word becomes as a sounding brass—they

have their reward. We supported our men because we believed, and yet believe, they were the best men; but we are now indicting them.

There is often this assertion made: "You cannot enforce the law against public sentiment." We take issue with that contention. You can do right despite everything which is not right. "Public sentiment" can be to mob a man for spitting on the sidewalk, according to who the man is. Are you going to acquiesce in such tyranny? The thing to do is when public sentiment is wrong, change public sentiment. Die by the law and right, and you will live.

The colored vote should be remembered; how it has stood for certain men and certain parties and factions, and, in this election, cast your vote only for men who are not afraid of right despite might.

Lorimer's Case.

It now appears that Mr. Lorimer will be ousted from the Senate of the United States—a very rare thing. It is also a very grave thing. It verifies the declaration that, whatsoever a man sows that shall he reap. We cannot, and do not, say that he is guilty, but it is evident that something was done far beneath the dignity of a United States Senator. You must do right, because the "laws of changeless nature, blind oppressor with oppressed." Mr. Lorimer may be clean, but his reputation is besmirched.

We are not sorry for the support we gave to the Republicans of this county and this Senatorial district last fall, but we are ashamed of the recognition our people from this county and district received. They have not been on the square, in our opinion, and when they bob up for office again we have no explanation worthy of presenting. We hope they will do their duty and pay their debts.

THE DU BOIS LYCEUM.

Meets at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church every Thursday evening at 7:45 p. m., Eighteenth and Cass streets.

Literary Programs and Debates on Current Topics.

Public cordially invited.

S. J. WILLIAMS,
President.
MR. LEFRIEDGE,
Secretary.

LINCOLN CELEBRATION

At St. Paul's A. M. E. Church,
Monday, February. 13,
7:45 P. M.

Under auspices of "Illinois Colored Historical Society." Admission 10 cents. Everybody invited. Speeches, patriotic songs and papers.

The colored people will honor the memory of the Emancipator.

Vice Presidents.

Revs. J. H. Sydes, E. T. Cottman, D. D., Wm. Collins, D. J. Tate, B. L. Ivory, J. W. Smalley, A. W. Williams, S. L. Edwards, R. L. Wilson, Geo. Wright, Drs. J. E. Henderson, S. A. Ware, N. B. Ford.

Program.

Opening Song—St. Paul's Choir.
Invocation—Rev. A. W. Williams.
Patriotic Song—Choir.
Introduction—Dr. J. H. Magee.
Reading Proclamation—Miss N. G. Sydes.

Singing—Choir.
What the Emancipation Means to the Colored People of Illinois and the World—Madame Jennie Coleman McPartridge Song—Choir.

Responses, limited to five minutes—Hon. Edw. D. Green, B. H. Lucas, Rev. E. C. Cole.

Solo—Miss Blossom Barton.
Rev. J. H. Sydes, Rev. E. T. Cottman, D. D., Capt. R. A. Byrd, Rev. S. L. Edwards.

Solo—Alberta Moore.
Rev. Wm. L. Collins, Chas. Brown, Esq., E. L. Rogers, Maj. Otis B. Duncan.

Song, composed by Arthur Naylor—

"Talk is cheap, but it takes money to buy land," and the Forum is sure that there will be no urgent call for anxiety about the loyalty of the colored people to our Commission candidate, for we will most surely come to claim our own. We are all with you, Charlie, and we will always be with you" aspera ad astra."

Chas. E. Wyatt for Commissioner.

Should I be favored with the nomination, and be elected, it will be my earnest endeavor to serve the people in an honorable and business like way, giving my undivided attention to the affairs that come before me while in office.

I consider the office one of the most important in the gift of the people of this city and sincerely assure them, if elected, to serve them with honor and ability.
Chas. E. Wyatt.

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Marion U. Woodruff for Commissioner.

Marion U. Woodruff is a candidate for the office of Commissioner. When Mr. Woodruff ran for office several years ago he promised, if elected, to introduce a measure in the City Council for cheaper gas and cheaper electric light. The people elected him and he kept his promise. He introduced a measure which resulted in the city installing its light plant and getting its lights for \$60 per annum, where it before paid \$187 per annum, and in the people getting gas for \$1 per thousand, where before they paid \$1.50 per thousand feet. Mr. Woodruff says: "There are other things the people need along with a new system of government. This city, not only now, but has for many years past needed pure water. We have been startled with the dreadful warning too often in the past from the columns of the newspapers, 'Boil your water! On account of shortage in the galleries we are compelled to pump from the river. What we want is not pure water part of the time but pure water all the time. If the people elect me one of their Commissioners I pledge myself in addition to giving them good and faithful service in all other matters to do my utmost in securing for them good water the year round. It can be done.'"

Mr. Woodruff served in the City Council and as Mayor one term each, or a period of four years, and has been a close student of municipal government.

Mr. Woodruff is a lawyer and citizen of good repute. He will make a fair and economical Commissioner and the people will have need to be proud of him. His announcement appears in the Forum.

Sung by Leeta Singleton, entitled, "On the Throne of Love's Sweet Dream." Rev. D. J. Tate, Rev. B. L. Ivory, A. M. Williams, Esq. Jubilee Song—Choir. Ushers—Edward Gorum, Mesdames C. H. Morgan, Matilda Jackson, Eva Monroe, Mattie Johnson, Mrs. Arthur Young, Sarah Harris. Chorister—Geo. Donnegan. Organist—Pearl Nelson. St. Paul's A. M. E. Church General Committee—Dr. J. H. McGee, John Mosby, Will Reed, Barney Clemm, Rev. Ben Johnson, Bert Singleton, C. S. Gibbs, Rev. J. H. Sydes.

St. John's A. M. E. Church Committee—Mrs. Eva Monroe, Wm. Cansler, B. H. Lucas, Henry Perry, Mrs. Millie Martin, Rev. Wm. Collins. Grace M. E. Church Committee—J. P. Roberts, C. A. Rieck, J. H. Rev. E. L. Rogers, Mrs. Bell, Rev. J. M. Smalley.

Union Baptist Church Committee—Mesdames Rosy Hunter, Bettie Watson, C. H. Morgan, G. H. Rollins, Dennis Douglas, James Gray, E. C. Cole. Zion Baptist Church—Sam Alexander, Nathan Smith, Amanda Carr, Rev. Chas. Houston, Mrs. R. B. Williams, Margie Davis, Rev. A. W. Williams.

New Hope Baptist Church—Mesdames Hattie McTier, H. K. Wilson, Jennie Perce, Charles Nolan, Rev. H. K. Wilson, Mr. J. B. Osby, Rev. D. J. Tate.

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church—Mrs. Hattie Edwards, Mrs. T. W. Warrie, Mrs. Sallie Hall, Mr. T. W. Warlick, Mr. H. B. Hughes, Mr. G. B. Lefridge, Rev. Edwards. Refreshment Committee—John Mosby, chairman.

BASIL W. OGG.

To the Voters of the City of Springfield:

As I am a candidate for Commissioner of the City of Springfield at the primary to be held Feb. 28, I wish to announce my position on questions of vital interest to the voters of the city.

If elected I pledge myself to devote my entire time to the duties of the office and to stand unreservedly and unqualifiedly for the best interests of all the people.

I stand for rigid economy and business methods in all public business matters, such as the letting of contracts, purchasing of supplies for various departments, etc.

In making appointments of heads of such departments as may come under my jurisdiction, my appointees will be judged only by their qualifications to serve the public interests and co-operate for the development of Springfield. Such appointments will be made irrespective of political affiliations or influences.

I will carefully analyze each and every measure or ordinance submitted for the council's consideration; will advocate only such measures as are for the public benefit, and will oppose all ordinances detrimental to Springfield.

I pledge myself to conform to the letter and spirit of the law concerning connections of officials with public contracts.

I am determined to give the public business the same attention and energy I have given my private business.

I stand for fair elections and clean politics.

As to my ability to fulfill these pledges and serve the city efficiently, I refer the voters to my private record.

As the campaign must necessarily be brief I may be unable to personally meet all the voters, so I hereby solicit your support and invite a close analysis of my private and business record.

Yours very truly,
BASIL W. OGG.



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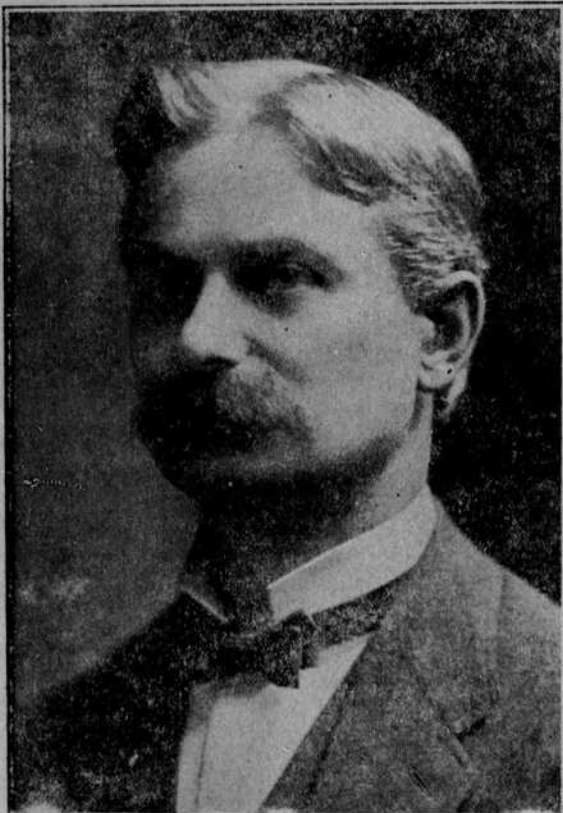
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JOHN S. SCHNEPP FOR MAYOR.

Mayor John S. Schnepf, who has served in that capacity nearly two years, is a candidate under the Commission form. Had the Commission form not carried, it is doubtful whether Mr. Schnepf would have entered the race. He took charge of the affairs of the city at a time when the city's affairs were in a very bad condition, both from lack of good business management and the lack of money in the treasury to pay out the city's current expenses. Since his tenure of office there has been a general cleaning up and renovation of every department over which he has supervision. Mr. Schnepf is to be credited for much improvement in the city in general and especially in the minimization of crime and saloon evils. He is strictly a business man and believes the city should be run as any other business or corporation. He abolished the iniquitous wine room and regulated the operation of saloons better than they have been for years. He placed competent men in charge of the Comptroller's department, the water works and the streets. He is thoroughly competent to make a good Mayor under the new form and re-inforced by good commissioners as the cabinet, he will carry out many more reforms, which were begun under the present administration. He has a large following and will be a hard man to beat. His record stands forth in bold relief as an augury in his favor.